

## Recommendations

1. Participants made the following recommendations:

### *Member States to:*

- a. Collectively agree on the transition of Pharma Initiative CPPM into Start-up Phase of APPM and also leveraging on the technical design of the existing pooled procurement mechanism, ensuring alignment with shared objectives and principles without necessarily losing the momentum generated
- b. Secure unwavering political support and commit to ensuring the mechanism's (APPM's) financial sustainability through proper planning, appropriate resource mobilisation strategies and adequate resource allocation.
- c. Provide the necessary expertise and resources required for the effective functioning of the secretariat and relevant committees, ensuring that the APPM operates with the highest standards of professionalism and efficiency.
- d. Ensure timely consolidation of country-level demand forecasts and procurement plans, which is essential for the success of the pooled procurement mechanism.
- e. Prioritize cooperation and transparency towards optimizing resource allocation and procurement efficiency.
- f. Provide proper governance and appropriate oversight for the APPM, ensuring it remains aligned with regional priorities and objectives while promoting accountability and transparency in all operations.
- g. Advocate for the active involvement of central banks and commercial banks in the Pan-African Payment and Settlement System (PAPSS), emphasizing its potential to streamline transactions in local currencies and reduce current heavy reliance on foreign currency, thereby reducing overall costs, fostering financial autonomy and stability within the continent.
- h. Promote local production of health product technologies according to internationally recognised quality standards.

### *Africa CDC to:*

- i. Lead the development of the APPM in close collaboration with ECA and Afreximbank, as well as with other relevant partners.
- j. Deepen ongoing efforts to harmonize existing pooled procurement initiatives of health commodities across the continent, to reduce duplication while enhancing coherence.
- k. Expedite the implementation of pooled procurement to effectively address manufacturers' market concerns and ensure timely access to essential medicines for the African population.
- l. Ensure that pooled procurement initiatives are properly anchored on the provisions of relevant AfCFTA Protocols that seek to address issues of tariff and, non-tariff barriers/measures, and align to key requirements relating to rules of origin.
- m. As the APPM's secretariat, it should coordinate procurement activities, encompassing sourcing, tendering, and transaction management. Additionally, it should oversee the management of the APPM funds efficiently, with requisite integrity, and transparency throughout the process to earn the trust of participating member states. Compliance with

established regulations and standards should be rigorously enforced, with a robust system in place for monitoring and evaluation to track progress and address any deviations from the set objectives.

- n. Initiate pooled procurement of the products already selected under the Pharma Initiative, gradually expanding to include more products and manufacturers. This approach ensures the utilization of existing feasibility studies conducted in the pilot states of the Pharma Initiative, thereby maximizing efficiency and leveraging prior efforts.
- o. Offer capacity-building programs to member states, focusing on critical facets of pooled procurement, thereby enhancing their understanding and capabilities to effectively participate in and benefit from it.

*ECA to:*

- p. Continue to collaborate with and offer robust support to Africa CDC in developing and operationalising the APPM, leveraging the expertise and experience it has built over the five years of the CPPM development.

*Africa CDC, ECA and AfreximBank to:*

- q. Facilitate the seamless transition of the AfCFTA-anchored Pharmaceutical Initiative into the startup phase of the Africa Pooled Procurement Mechanism (APPM), ensuring continuity and momentum in advancing healthcare access, kickstarting industrialization, and ensuring economic and health security.